

The Pocahontas Times.

Andrew & Norman Price, Owners.

"Montani Semper Liberi!"

Andrew Price, Editor

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BIOGRAPHIC NOTES.

The Brown relationship trace their ancestry to Joseph Brown. He was of Scotch-Irish stock. His wife was Hannah M'Afferty. They lived a few years in Bath County, on the Bull Pasture, thence removed and settled on lands now owned by William C. Mann, near Edray. Some fruit-trees and a fine spring indicate the place where they lived, about three-fourths of a mile east of Mr Mann's residence.

Mr Brown died in a few years after settling here, but was survived by his widow for many years. She became suddenly blind and remained so for twenty years. She spent her time in knitting and taught many of her grand-daughters to knit. Among them was the late Mrs Thomas Nicholas. Mrs Nicholas would often tell how her grandmother would take her little hands into her hands and put them through the motions until she could knit herself. A few years ago she was blind. Mrs Brown recovered her sight as quickly as she had lost it, and could count chickens and geese forty yards away.

The widow Brown's daughters Polly and Hannah lived and died at the old home.

Rachel Brown was married to William Brock, and settled on the homestead.

Ann Brown became the wife of Jeremiah Friel, progenitor of the Friel relationship, and lived on the Greenbrier where Jasper Friel now lives.

Elizabeth Brown married a Mr McGuire, and lived in Nicholas.

Joseph Brown, junior, went to Nicholas County. His son Wesley Brown, a Confederate soldier, was at Edray during the great war between the States, and made himself known to his relatives.

John Brown was a soldier in the war of 1812, and never returned.

Josiah Brown, in whose memory this sketch is specially prepared and published; was the eldest of Joseph Brown's sons, and he married Jennie Waddell, a daughter of Alexander Waddell and Ellen Rouse his wife, near Mill Point. Josiah Brown was born June 22, 1777; his wife was born April 22, 1771, married in 1799, and settled on the western section of the Brown homestead. Traces of the settlement yet to be seen near Mr Mann's residence. They were the parents of seven daughters.

Eleanor Brown, born August 6, 1802, was married to Zecheriah Barnett, from Lewis County, W. Va. Mr Barnett settled on a section of the Brown homestead, on land now owned by Andrew M. McLaughlin. In reference to her family the following particulars are given: John Wesley Barnett died young; Josiah Barnett, John Andrew Barnett died in youth. Sarah Jane Barnett was married to George McLaughlin, late of Driftwood. He was a faithful Confederate soldier. Hannah Barnett became Mrs William Townsend. Martha Barnett lately deceased. James Barnett, Thomas Barnett, Stephen Barnett, and Newton Barnett are well-known citizens near Driftwood. The three first named were Confederate soldiers.

Hannah Brown was married to Jacob Arbaugh, who was from near Mill Point, and first settled on Sugar Tree Run, a part of the Brown homestead. Her children were Eliza Jane, Susannah Simms Lauretta Frances, Nancy Caroline, John Allen, George Brown, James Marion, William Hanson, and Joseph Newton.

John Arbaugh was a Confederate soldier, and died in 1861 at the Lockridge Spring, near Driscoll. George and James passed through the war. George was in the 31st Regiment of Virginia Infantry.

Shortly after the war Jacob Arbaugh moved to Johnson County, Missouri, which he jocularly referred to as his twentieth change of homes since his marriage.

Jennie Brown, born October 9, 1805 was married to John Friel, son of Jeremiah Friel the pioneer, and settled on a section of the Friel homestead on the Greenbrier River. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters. Fuller particulars respecting her

family will appear in another paper. Ann Brown, born December 9, 1806, was married to James Courtney, and first settled on a part of the homestead. Their children were Andrew Jackson, Thomas, George Washington, Hanson, who died at the age of six years; Jane, who is now Mrs Adam Gligler; Julia, who is Mrs James Rhea; and Hannah Gay, who is now Mrs Godfrey Geiger.

Andrew Courtney was a Confederate soldier and died a prisoner of war at Fort Delaware. Thomas Courtney was also a Confederate soldier, survived the war, and now lives near Marlinton. George W. Courtney was a Confederate soldier, survived the war, but died near Buckeye about the year 1887.

Martha Brown, born February 14, 1808, was married to William Waugh, son of Samuel Waugh the pioneer, and settled at the old home. Martha was known in her family as "daddy's boy," since she was constantly out of doors with her father. She could harness the teams, plough, or drive the sled as occasion required. She was the mother of ten children—Davis, Zane, Robert, Enoch, Ozias, William Clark, Jane Miriam, Mary Ann, and Almira. She died in Missouri, having lived awhile in Upshur County, West Virginia, then in Iowa.

Miriam Brown was born August 6, 1810, was first married to James Wiker Tyman, a native of Augusta County. Mr Tyman was a school teacher. They first settled on Elk where they lived two or three years. He and Robert Beale were friends and worked together in a sabbath school that was attended by the Gibsons, Varners, Hannahs, Meahs, and others. The land he worked on Elk had been a part of David Hannah's, and is now owned by John B. Hannah.

Mr Tyman put out a field of corn that grew finely and was very promising. But early in August there was a heavy frost, he became discouraged, gave up his land, and moved to Greenbrier River to land given Mrs Tyman by her father, Joseph Brown. Here he taught school, having the Friels, Moores, and Sharps for pupils. Mr Tyman had business in Huntersville the 17th of January, 1834, and on his return was drowned in Thorny Creek. His body was found on the 19th and buried the 20th. The Greenbrier home was just above the "Bridger Place." Their daughter Mary Frances is now Mrs Otho W. Ruckman, on Indian Draft.

Mrs Tyman's second marriage was to the late Thomas Nicholas, on Indian Draft, near Edray. Mr Nicholas was a skillful mechanic, a much respected and prosperous citizen.

Mary Brown, born April 13, 1812, and was married to Jacob Waugh, and lived in Buckhannon. Jacob Waugh was a prominent citizen of Upshur County. Mrs Mary Waugh was the mother of fifteen children, five only lived to be grown. Her sons were, Brown, Enoch, Homer, and John William. The daughter, Leah Waugh, was the third wife of the late Dr Pleasant Smith, of Edray.

With the patient assistance of Mrs Mary F. Ruckman it has been put into the writer's power to furnish the preceding biographic particulars illustrating the family history of Josiah Brown, one of the early settlers of our county.

His history was one of humble toil and self-sacrifice for the good of his family. In the course of his life he endured great personal suffering and afflictions. He was bitten twice by rattlesnakes when in the ranges looking after his livestock. Once he was with his neighbor the late William Sharp, who cared for him and helped him home. The second time he was alone, and it is believed he saved his life by putting his lips to the punctures and thus extracted the poison. Finally a strange sore appeared in the corner of one of his eyes and spread over most of the right side of his face. Many believed this sore was the result of the snake bites. It caused him excruciating sufferings that were greatly intensified by the efforts of

sympathizing well-meaning friends to give him relief.

Sad and pathetic memories of his brother John Brown seemed to be ever haunting his mind, and the tears seemed to be ever ready to flow at the mention of his name.

In the war of 1812 Josiah Brown was drafted for service at Norfolk, Virginia. John Brown, a younger brother, being unmarried, volunteered in his brother's place, and was accepted, and was ordered to report for service at the Warm Springs. John seems to have been a very pious youth. On the evening before his departure for the seat of war he came over to his brother Josiah's to bid them in fare well and have one more season of social prayer and supplication. Then as he went away over the fields he was heard singing:

"When I can read my title clear
To mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear,
And wipe my weeping eyes.
"Let cares like a wild deluge come
And storms of sorrow fall,
May I but safely reach my home;
My God, my Heaven, my all!"

This was the last that was ever seen or heard of him by his brother Josiah's family, as he never came back from the war. His remains are somewhere near Norfolk or perhaps most probably at Craney Island.

Truly, Josiah Brown's history is a sad and touching one. He now knows, no doubt, what Moses meant when he prayed: "Make me glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted me and the years wherein I have seen evil."
W. T. P.

ABOUT MONROE COUNTY.

The town of Union is located in a charmingly picturesque region. It is convenient to renowned summer resorts. The railroad is sufficiently near to secure its facilities of transportation and travel without the din and annoyance those endure who live immediately on the railroad. There are four churches, whose pews are largely occupied by persons from the surrounding country. There seems to be no apparent lack of congeniality between the town and country people. The country people are proud of their town, newspaper, official and professional citizenship, while the town people are ever speaking in praise of their country friends.

The history of Union society is adorned by the names of such eminent persons as Senators A. F. Carpenter and Frank Hereford, Gen Chapman, member of Congress, and his son, Capt. Chapman commander of Chapman's Artillery Company, composed of the flower of young Monroe patriots, and did such gallant service.

It is near Union that Judge A. N. Campbell lives, the brave soldier, the pure Judge, and model Christian gentleman, and who is held in such high esteem by so very many of our readers.

For many years the eminent Divine, Rev. Dr. Houston, resided in Union, one of the greatest men of his time then living in West Virginia. To his influence and instruction is due very much of the intelligence and refined culture and elevated type of piety for which a certain element of Mountain society is distinguished.

It was the writer's pleasure to meet in the editorial room of the Monroe Watchman the young Editor, A. S. Johnson, who is rapidly coming to the front as a live, progressive journalist. His history is one that illustrates how a youth of good morals, diligent application, and ever ready for any service, so it be honest and useful, can rise and be power for good in the community, in spite of serious drawbacks.

Much to the credit of Union society is the esteem and respect that is shown to Robert Crebs, a young master mechanic, who is devoted to his calling. Much of his hard-earned gains have been lavishly spent in the care comfort of an invalid parent and sisters, an example of self-sacrifice but rarely equaled. He is a worthy brother of his accomplished and useful sister, Miss Ella Crebs, organist, a

distinguished teacher of high schools, and housekeeper for her brother Robert.

The more I write about Union, the more comes to my mind, and the more difficult appears the effort to do the interesting subject the justice it so richly deserves, and so the writer would conclude by remarking that to him it is a matter of proud congratulation that in West Virginia there is such a County as Monroe, and that Monroe has such an interesting county town as Union.

As our people are contemplating a reunion at an early day, it may perhaps interest them to listen to some faint echoes of the Monroe Reunion that came off so recently with such a tremendous outpouring of the patriotic citizenship of Monroe and adjoining counties. Such another gathering is hardly to be looked for in this generation. The almost universal opinion is that, as it was arranged, it was a melancholy instance of "vanity and vexation of spirit," and keenly felt disappointment of cherished expectations, and of every thing turning out differently from what was anticipated. It seems there was "too much chin music;" to use the terse language of one of the bravest of the brave, an old artillery "rammer." "There was too much chin music, and too little hand music, and too little tin" for shaking hands, jokes, happy greeting words, and working the jaws on the good eatin's." Now, if the Marlinton management will take the cue from this brave old "rammer," happy memories will be carried home by all that may be present, unless it be the "chin musicians." Thousands of people are ready to say that there may be too much of a 'good thing,' of the kind hinted at, when reunions are on hand.

Three or four miles from Caldwell, near the roadside as one travels towards Union, is the comparatively hidden and unknown Organ Cave. When it comes to be carefully explored and written up, it will take its place among the most picturesque and interesting objects of its kind in our State. The Irish Corner basin finds an outlet for its drainage here, as has been demonstrated. Some years since parties threw handfuls of wheat bran into the rivulet that disappears in this cavern, and the bran reappeared at the Nickel mill pond, on Second Creek about four miles southward. Its tunnels and chambers have been explored for miles in various directions. The salt-petre rooms were worked in the war of 1812 and in the late war between the States. The nitrous earth seems to be very plentiful. Wooden shovels, hoppers and sleds used in 1812 have been found not so very long since in a room that had been overlooked for many years. This room is entered by a tunnel about as large as an oil barrel and seven or eight feet long. The earth was brought thro the tunnel in narrow sleds drawn by hand, by means of hickory wythes. There is a formation at one place bearing a striking resemblance to a Reind cave and is suggestive of a feed organ. When this formation is struck by something hard, sounds are produced in a variety of intonations, and hence the name Organ Cave. The primitive forests overshadow the entrance, and every thing around is awe-inspiring, and, in some respects, it is more impressive to approach this gloomy cavernous opening than it is to stand near the Natural Bridge in Virginia.

The late James Scott, whose home was near the eastern base of the "seven-mile" mountain beyond the Sweet Springs, had a singular fancy for rattlers. He lived as a bachelor and was a person of remarkable corpulency, weighing about three hundred pounds when at his best. He had tamed three or four immense snakes and they had the freedom of his bed-room. It was a favorite pastime with him to invite boys into this room on some playful pretext, and when they would enter the room and break away from the unexpected snakes scattered about the floor, in their fright, he would shake all

Rattlesnakes, Butterflies, and . . . ?

Washington Irving said, he supposed a certain hill was called "Rattlesnake Hill" because it abounded in—butterflies. The "rule of contrary" governs other names. Some bottles are, supposedly, labeled "Sarsaparilla" because they are full of . . . well, we don't know what they are full of, but we know it's not sarsaparilla; except, perhaps, enough for a flavor. There's only one make of sarsaparilla that can be relied on to be all it claims. It's Ayer's. It has no secret to keep. Its formula is open to all physicians. This formula was examined by the Medical Committee at the World's Fair with the result that while every other make of sarsaparilla was excluded from the Fair, Ayer's Sarsaparilla was admitted and honored by awards. It was admitted because it was the best sarsaparilla. It received the medal as the best. No other sarsaparilla has been so tested or so honored. Good motto for the family as well as the Fair: Admit the best, exclude the rest.

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over with loud hilarious laughter. At night he would gather up his pets, giants of their kind, put them in bed, and sleep with them in his arms.

Mrs Ida Boone, the only daughter of Mrs Mary Garuth, who was for a time missionary to the Indians in the Indian Territory, is living near Organ Cave, Greenbrier County, wife of Mr William Boone. Among the curious things in her possession is a good bearing a striking resemblance to a baseball bat and could be readily taken for such at the first glance. It is about four feet in length and perfectly straight.
W. T. P.

WHEN WE WERE NON-JUDORS

On the 16th day of September, 1861, Judge Robert M. Hudson held a whole term of the Circuit Court of Pocahontas County, Virginia, and adjourned it until the next term. Certain events transpired so that not another order was entered for over four years when we see Judge Harrison, of the 9th judicial circuit composed of the counties of Pocahontas, Monroe, Greenbrier, Mercer, and M'Dowell, entered an order in vacation, Aug. 17, 1865, appointing court officers, who were: Robert T. Gay, Clerk; William Curry, Deputy Clerk; J. F. Wanless, Sheriff. The courthouse at Huntersville not being in condition to hold court in, the first court was held at Wesley Chapel, at Hillsborough.

By looking at the files of the circuit court of Pocahontas County for the years 1865 to 1868 a large number of indictments for murder may be found against Confederate soldiers on account of persons killed in opposing the Confederate army in open fight. Some of these soldiers, in fact most of them, are those who stand highest in the estimation of the citizens of the county and who are leading members in church and state. These cases were never tried. The fact that a state of belligerency existed in America from the year 1861 to 1865, seems to have been generally recognized by all the civilized world, with the exception of the grand juries of Pocahontas County of the courts when an ex-Confederate sympathizer was as distinctly a non-juror as any of the outlawed Jacobins who supported the Stuart kings of England.

When the citizens of this county are inclined to grumble at the irksomeness of jury duty, they should remember the condition of affairs when the privilege was denied them. In those days some of the men afterwards could sway the civil government of the county in whatsoever way they would, and were leaders of the dominant party had to lobby for their lives.

Judge Nathaniel Harrison, a State appointee, was on the bench. He has been hated uniformly by our people since his term of service here, but we have heard eminent lawyers declare that he was an excellent lawyer. His private character was not above reproach, if we can judge from the tales we still hear of him; and it is not uninteresting to study the signature with which each days proceedings were closed by him. Ordinarily it is bold and true, showing that he

wrote a beautiful hand; while at other times it is so badly turned that it can hardly be read, indicating that the hand that held the pen was very tired or overcome. There is a tradition that soon after leaving here this judge died a pauper in the city of Denver.

At one of the courts an order shows that there was not an attorney present who could make oath that he had not borne arms against the United States or aided and abetted these in rebellion. Then the judge appointed Colonel J. W. Davis to prepare indictments and render such aid to the grand jury as they might require, "which he promptly and efficiently done."

On the 3d day of April, 1866, William Skeen, a practicing attorney of Virginia, presented a full pardon and amnesty from the President of the United States and evidence that he had taken the oaths prescribed and that he had been a regular practicing attorney of Pocahontas County since 1839, and that he was marked on the docket as counsel in 105 cases, but being unable to take the oath prescribed by the State of West Virginia his motion to practice law was overruled and exceptions taken.

It was about this time that Daniel Stofer, afterwards prosecuting attorney of this county, took the oath required by the State and was held in jail for perjury until the Supreme Court passed on the case.

The supreme court reversing the action of the circuit court convicting Daniel Stofer of perjury, the said Stofer moved the court to reinstate him as a practicing attorney, but Judge Harrison took the view of the matter that the supreme court had passed upon a technicality and had not decided the case upon its merits, and that out of respect for bench and bar the said Stofer should not come back and be reinstated.

At the April Term, 1870, Judge McWhorter held his first term here, and the first order made was allowing "Count" Stofer to qualify.

At this term of court other attorneys who qualified were John M. Lightner, Henry M. Mathews, William M. McAllister, Joseph Mayse, George H. Moffett, and Alexander F. Mathews.

With the disappearance of Judge Harrison, who resigned two years before his term expired, the fear with which the ex-Confederates regarded the courts wholly disappeared. In a short their disabilities were removed, and since then they have taken the liberty to remain in power to the extent of electing county officials with more or less regularity.

Examination for Teachers.
Teachers' examination will be held at Marlinton, West Virginia, October 6 and 7, 1897.
D. L. BARLOW,
County Superintendent Schools.

Art Exhibit.
I will give an art exhibit in the basement of the Methodist Church at Hillsboro, September 25, from 1 to 5 P. M. This exhibit will show the work of my class. The public is cordially invited.
Mrs J. H. DILLS.

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